

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A plant growth factor peptide obtained by collecting cells from liliaceous plants, incubating the collected cells in a plant cell cultivation medium, and separating said plant growth factor peptide from the cells through centrifugation.

19. (Currently Amended) A plant growth factor peptide, wherein the plant growth factor peptide has the following physico-chemical properties:

a) it is soluble in water, ~~but is hardly soluble in ethanol and acetone;~~

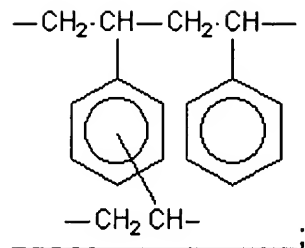
b) it is acidic;

c) it keeps 70% of its activity, after being heated at 100°C for 10 minutes and it is inactivated, after being autoclaved at 121°C for 20 minutes;

d) it is a polar substance, and is not retained in reversed-phase columns with ~~Gesmosil 75C₁₈-OPN~~ porous spherical silica particles with an average size of 75 μ m and an average pore size of 120 Å and ~~Diaion HP-20~~ a synthetic adsorbent ion exchange resin with the following chemical structure

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e) it is stable at pH of 3 to 9, but at pH 11, its activity is reduced to 60%;

f) it is inactivated by ~~Pronase-E~~ a proteolytic enzyme obtained from *Streptomyces griseus*, but it is not inactivated by Glycosidases "Mixed"; and

g) it is adsorbed to ~~DEAE Sephadex A-25~~ 2-(diethylamino)ethyl-moiety containing ion-exchange resin (and eluted with 1000 mM KCl), but it is not adsorbed to ~~CM Sephadex C-25~~ a carboxymethyl-moiety containing ion-exchange resin.